

Serial No.: 10/549,871

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**REMARKS**

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. Restriction was required to one of the following five allegedly distinct inventions:

- I. Claims 1-14, 23-24 and 29, drawn to a method of producing ergosta-5,7-dienol using a microorganism having reduced desaturase activity and increased HMG-CoA reductase activity plus containing polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 6 having increased lanosterol C14-demethylase activity;
- II. Claims 1-10, 15-18, 23-24 and 29, drawn to a method of producing ergosta-5,7-dienol using a microorganism having reduced desaturase activity and increased HMG-CoA reductase activity plus containing polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 8 having increased squalene epoxidase activity;
- III. Claims 1-10, 19-22, 23-24 and 29, drawn to a method of producing ergosta-5,7-dienol using a microorganism having reduced desaturase activity and increased HMG-CoA reductase activity plus containing polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 10 having increased squalene synthase activity;
- IV. Claims 25-28, drawn to a genetically modified organism having reduced desaturase activity, increased HMG-CoA reductase activity plus increased activity of one or other biosynthetic pathway enzyme;
- V. Claim 30, drawn to a method of producing a microorganism having reduced desaturase activity and increased HMG-CoA reductase activity plus increased activity of one or other biosynthetic pathway enzyme.

Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 121, applicants hereby elect the Group II claims, Claims 1-10, 15-18, 23-24 and 29, with traverse, for prosecution on the merits. This election is made with traverse because it is believed that search and examination of all pending claims may be made without serious burden.

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Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of the application, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicants' attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,



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